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TAGS: US, PINT, PFOR, XD, XF

SUBJECT: AMERICAN NEWS AND COMMENT

1. HIGHLIGHTS. MONDAY MORNING PAPERS CONTINUE WATERGATE SPECULATION IN TOP SPOT, REPORTING CLASH OF HALDEMAN-EHRLICHMAN FACTION WITH MITCHELL- DEAN GROUP. BALTSUN UNAVAILABLE TODAY. SOME COMMENT ON UN, ALSO EXIT TAX.

1 A. WASHPOST FRONTPAGES SHAH EXPECTS ENERGY CRISIS TO BUILD POWER IN GULF; ALSO ISRAEL CLAIMS EGYPT GOT MIRAGES. INSIDE STORIES INCLUDE CAIRO SEES UN VOTE A VICTORY; ZAYYAT ON TV DOUBTS US ROLE IN RAID. NYTIMES HAS STORY TWO EUROPEAN PAPERS REPORT PLANS FOR NEW SUEZ CANAL, CITING IL MESSAGGERO AND LONDON TELEGRAPH; TIMES HAS BRIEF CAIRO TRAILER SPECIAL REPORTING A HIGH EGYPTIAN OFFICIAL DISMISSED THE REPORTS OF PLANS FOR A NEW CANAL AS RIDICULOUS.

1 B. OTHER STORIES INSIDE INCLUDE ARAB GUERRILLA ADMITS UNCLASSIFIED

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SUICIDE MISSION IN ISRAEL; NYTIMES HAS PROFILE ON HAFEZ, ALSO BEIRUT, 200 AMERICANS IN LEBANON MARCH FOR PALESTINIANS. POST HAS PAKISTAN PROSPECTS IMPROVE SINCE WAR.

2. IRAN. WASHPOST HOAGLAND REPORTS THAT SHAH,

DISAPPOINTED BY RUSSIA POLITICALLY AND ECONOMICALLY, APPEAR TO BE ABANDONING PREVIOUS EFFORTS TO ACHIEVE A MORE BALANCED POLICY AND HAS SIGNIFICANTLY REINFORCED HIS ALREADY STRONG TIES TO UNITED STATES, AS HE PINS HIS AMBITIONS TO BE THE MILITARY AND ECONOMIC SUPER- POWER OF PERSIAN GULF ON AMERICAN SUPPORT. HOAGLAND ALSO QUOTES FONMIN KHALATBARY AS SAYING IN INTERVIEW THAT APPOINTMENT OF AMBASSADOR HELMS MAY INDICATE PRESIDENT NIXON' S INTEREST IN OUR COUNTRY BUT TO SAY THAT NIXON HAS DONE THIS TO MAKE IRAN THE CIA CENTER OF THE WORLD IS TOTALLY FALSE.

3. EGYPT. NYTIMES, CAIRO, TANNER REPORTS UNSC ACTS OF CONDEMNING ISRAELI RAID ON BEIRUT AND DECIDING TO UNDERTAKE REVIEW OF ENTIRE MIDDLE EAST QUESTION REGARDED IN CAIRO AS MAJOR DIPLOMATIC SUCCESS FOR EGYPT, ADDING CAIRO HOPES DR. JARRING' S MEDIATION MISSION WILL BE REVIVED. ACCORDING TANNER, WESTERN DIPLOMATS IN CAIRO FEEL PROSPECT OF BROAD UN REVIEW RELIEVES SADAT OF IMMEDIATE PRESSURE TO CARRY OUT HIS ANNOUNCED INTENTION OF MILITARY ACTION. WASHPOST, CAIRO, DULLFORCE REPORTS WESTERN DIPLOMATS IN CAIRO ACKNOWLEDGE ZAYYAT' S CLEVER HANDLING OF SITUATION BUT BELIEVE HE HAS ACHIEVED AT BEST ONLY A TACTICAL EDGE UNLIKELY TO BUDGE US OR ISRAEL FROM PRESENT POSITIONS. DULLFORCE ADDS ONE POLITICAL ADVANTAGE SEEN BY EGYPTIAN IS WHAT THEY REGARD AS GROWING SPLIT BETWEEN US AND WEST EUROPEAN ALLIES OVER MIDDLE EAST.

3 A. WASHPOST, LOCAL, BRAESTRUP REPORTS EGYPT' S FOREIGN MINISTER ZAYYAT ON CBS FACE THE NATION YESTERDAY DISASSOCIATED HIMSELF FROM CHARGES BY SOME ARABS OF US COMPLICITY IN ISREALI RAID, BUT CONTENDED US BY PERMITTING 500 MILLION YEARLY ARMS SALES TO ISRAEL HAD SUPPORTED CONTINUED ISRAELI OCCUPATION OF EGYPT' S SINAI SINCE 1967 WAR. ASKED WHETHER REPORTS FROM CAIRO OF FULL MOBILIZATION MEANT IMMINENT EGYPTIAN MILITARY ACTION, ZAYYAT DEFENDED EGYPT' S RIGHT TO REESTABLISH TERRITORIAL

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INTEGRITY BUT HAD NO INTENTION OF OCCUPYING TEL AVIV. ZAYYAT ALSO EMPHASIZED UNSC REVIEW OF MIDDLE EAST PEACE EFFORTS WOULD DETERMINE WHETHER DIPLOMATIC SOLUTION IS POSSIBLE.

4. ISRAEL. WASHPOST AND NYTIMES HAVE JERUSALEM STORIES REPORTING EBAN INTERRUPTED FRENCH AMBASSADOR'S EASTER HOLIDAY AND SHOWED HIM QUOTE PROOF UNQUOTE THAT FRENCH-BUILT MIRAGE WARPLANES HAD BEEN DELIVERED TO EGYPT FROM LIBYA. NYTIMES TRAILER, PARIS REUTERS, SAYS FRENCH

GOVERNMENT TODAY SAID ISRAEL HAD NOT GIVEN IT ANY PROOF THAT MIRAGE JETS HAD BEEN TRANSFERRED TO EGYPT.

5. LEBANON. NYTIMES HAS BEIRUT SPECIAL REPORTING SOME 200 UNITED STATES CITIZENS HAD MADE A TWO- DAY PEACE- MARCH ALONG COAST IN SUPPORT OF THE RIGHT OF PALESTINIAN ARABS TO RETURN HOME, THE ORGANIZERS DECLARING IT THEIR INTENTION TO DRAW THE ATTENTION OF THE WORLD AND PARTICULARLY THE US TO THE ANGUISH OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE DENIED A NATIONAL IDENTITY SINCE 1948.

6. UN COMMENT. NYTIMES EDITORIAL ON US ABSTENTION SAYING ONLY SURPRISE WAS US DECISION TO ABSTAIN RATHER THAN VETO WHAT WAS CLEARLY AN UNFAIR JUDGMENT AGAINST ISRAEL, EDITORIAL ADDING THAT IN RESPONSE TO AMERICAN PRESSURE RESOLUTION DID PAY LIP SERVICE TO EVEN- HANDEDNESS BY ALSO CONDEMNING ALL ACTS OF VIOLENCE WHICH ENDANGER INNOCENT LIVES. EDITORIAL WONDERS WHETHER PRESIDENT NIXON'S CONCERN OVER DEEPENING ENERGY CRISIS COULD HAVE STARTED NEW EFFORTS AT APPEASING ARAB STATES GIVING SANCTUARY TO TERRORISTS, AND SEES IN SOVIET AND CHINESE ABSTENTIONS ALARMING READINESS TO GIVE ARAB EXTREMISTS A FREE HAND.

7. EXIT FEE COMMENT. WASHPOST EDITORIAL HOLDS KREMLIN'S ASSURANCES IT HAS SUSPENDED TAX ON EMIGRANTS SHOULD MELT SUPPORT FOR JACKSON AMENDMENT AND CLEAR WAY FOR CONGRESS TO INCLUDE EQUAL TARIFF TREATMENT FOR SOVIET UNION IN TRADE REFORM ACT. IMPORTANT CONSIDERATION, SAYS POST, IS THAT ENOUGH PEOPLE INSIDE AND OUTSIDE SOVIET UNION NOW FOLLOW EMIGRATION MATTERS, THUS ENSURING SUSPENSION WILL BE THOROUGHLY POLICED, ADDING IF SOVIETS REIMPOSE TAX, THEY UNCLASSIFIED

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WOULD NOT ONLY BROADCAST THEIR UNTRUSTWORTHINESS BUT ALSO PROVOKE US TO LIFT THEIR MFN STATUS. POST SAYS JACKSON, WHO CAN TAKE CREDIT FOR SOVIET TURN, SHOULD NOW SUPPORT MFN FOR SOVIET UNION.

7 A. SUNDAY BALTSUN EDITORIAL SAYS MILLS' POSITION INDICATES WE MAY BE ON WAY TO COMPROMISE-- PERHAPS A SOFTENED VERSION OF JACKSON AMENDMENT-- THAT WILL NOT SCUTTLE THE PROMISING AMERICAN- SOVIET TRADING RELATIONSHIP AND YET GIVE SOME HELP TO SOVIET JEWS. THIS WOULD BE A RESULT WORTH SEEKING, SUN CONCLUDES. ROGERS

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